



White Cliffs Ramblers Association KT09

Annual General Meeting

13.30 hrs on Sunday 6th November 2022



Minutes

St Margaret's Village Hall, St Margaret's-at-Cliffe, Dover

- 1) **Present:** John Pye (JP), Tony Bristow (TB), Anne Bristow (AH), Helena Trevelyan (HT), Andrew Swarbrick (AS), , Margaret Milsted-Williamson (MMW), John Shale (JS), Lee Pickup (LP), Deborah Quow (DQ) , Jane O'Neill (JO) Roger King (RK) Gavin Trevelyan, Elaine Dunnell, John Polden, Kim Pye, Les Dunger, Gordon Sencicle, Peter Cross, Bernadette Facey, Pam Brivio, Dan Dobson, Diana Backwell, John Watson, Rob Riddle, Madeleine Riddle, Dale Moorhouse, Ann Grace, John Grace, Edward Roche, Andrew Searle, Maura Pell, Valerie Pearce, Ian Loftus. (John Polden counted two more attendees, but think they forgot to sign in, so I apologise)
- 2) **Apologies for absence:** Carol Barrett, Rowena Pearce, Rosie Hall, Valerie Morrell, Marjorie Jessop, Jill Roche, Morag Loftus
- 3) **Minutes for AGM 2021 approved unanimously**
- 4) **Matters arising: None were raised**
- 5) **Matters from the following reports:**
 - a) **Chairman's Report: previously circulated**

John Pye introduced himself as the new WCR Chairperson and warmly welcomed everyone who had turned out on such a wet and blustery afternoon
 - b) **Treasurer's Annual Account and Report for the year ended September 30th 2021: previously circulated**

John Shale said that financially we were in a good position. The remaining money following the generous donation for Margaret Lubbock is to be decided
 - c) **Secretary's Report: As circulated**
 - d) **Membership Secretary's report: previously circulated**

Andrew Swarbrick said that numbers were slightly down
 - e) **Walks co-ordinator's Report: previously circulated**



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Tony Bristow explained to the attendees, that he and Anne were stepping down from this role and he warmly thanked the membership for all the many walks they had offered to lead, over the years. John Pye presented Anne and Tony with gifts and a signed card from the group to thank them both for their long years of hard work and commitment to this role.

f) Publicity Officer's Report: previously circulated

g) Newsletter and Programme Secretary's Report: previously circulated

h) Local Footpath Officer's Report: -

Margaret Milsted- Williamson, who is the new Local Footpath Officer, (see below), asked for volunteers for the role of Parish Footpath Officers. She listed all the parishes which need volunteers for this role. One or two attendees volunteered immediately

i) Group Local Footpath Officers Co-ordinator's Report – Roger King- previously circulated

Roger King gave a summary of key issues and explained that he was stepping down from part of his role and John Pye presented Roger with a signed card from the WCR in acknowledgement of his wonderful contribution to this role. Maura Pell has been appointed by Kent Area Ramblers to take over from Roger, although Roger will continue to assist in the hand over for a period of time.

j) Web Editor's report: (previously circulated)

Gavin Trevelyan explained that he was stepping down from this role in January 2023. He warmly thanked the membership for all their contributions and commented on the plethora of beautiful photos that had been acquired over the years.

k) Walking Festival Report: (previously circulated)

5) Election of honorary officers and other members of the committee:

- Current members of the committee, apart from those who are standing down, agreed to stand again for another year and this was unanimously approved

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- **Anne Hickey** has taken on the new role of Social Secretary, now that she and **Tony Bristow** have stepped down as Walks Co-ordinator, seconded by **Lee Pickup**
 - **Tony Bristow** will continue with his role as Newsletter Editor all agreed
 - **Debbie Quow** will now take over the role of Walks Co-ordinator- seconded by **Margaret Milsted -Williamson**
 - **Richard Frith** has stepped down from the committee and **Margaret Milsted-Williamson** is taking over as Parish Footpath Observer Co-ordinator- seconded by **Helena Trevelyan**
 - **John Shale** is now, in addition to his role as Treasurer, the group's Vegetation Clearance Officer. This is a role he has already undertaken so well this year and for which there is unanimous approval.
 - **Pam Brivio** is to join the WCR Committee this year and will be an invaluable asset because of her position at DDC and her work with the Walkers are Welcome organisation- seconded by **Anne Hickey**
 - All changes to the Committee were unanimously approved.
- 6) Appointment of an independent examiner of the accounts**
- **Robert McDougall**, will continue in his role as independent examiner of the accounts
- 7) The Les Preston Photographic Competition**
- **John Shale** announced that the winner of the best photo taken was **Lee Pickup**. Lee was congratulated and presented with a gift for her outstanding photo which was voted as the best!
 - **John Pye** also circulated a WCR Calendar for 2023 displaying the twelve highest scoring photographs an taken this year. The calendars cost £10 each and they were swiftly bought by attendees!
- 8) Questions from the floor/ AOB**
- **John Polden** had brought in some bagged up sweatshirts with the WCR logo on them. All donations were to go to Air Ambulance. By the end of the meeting, £58 had been collected for this charity so great work!
 - **Andrew Searle** said that one of the positives of the WCWF was the links established with literary and historical organisations. Andrew wondered whether these links could be continued by the group, even though the Walking Festival was not to continue in its present form.
 - **Margaret Milsted- Williamson** said that Saga also does Walking Holidays and we are nearly all of an age to join Saga! She explained that Saga would be



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willing to put on holidays for our group. She suggested that before we offer a Saga Holiday to the membership, one of us or a couple should try out one of these holidays first.

- **John Polden** is hoping to organise a WCR annual meal in early March, at an expected cost of £25-£30 for a two course meal. A show of hands of those interested in attending was requested, over 20 indicated that they were. John and **Anne Hickey** will do a recce to find a suitable pub/restaurant.
- **Gordon Sencicle** gave a very brief synopsis of the history relating to Betteshanger Country Park and the current proposals. Details of how to comment on the proposals to Dover District Council had been circulated to all WCR members in advance of the meeting. It was re-iterated that the deadline for submission of comments was 15 November 2022.

9) **Date time and location of next meeting: 13:30 hrs 5 November 2023 at St Margaret's Village Hall in the small meeting room.** John Shale requested to book room.

10) **Close of Meeting: 14.40 hrs approximately**